Amendments To The Claims

Please amend claims 1, 7 and 12, and please cancel claims 2, 3, 8 and 14, so that the claims read as set forth below.

1.   (Amended) A method of ~~generating an electronic text file from~~ processing a ~~paper-based~~ document that includes a plurality of characters, the method comprising:

capturing a plurality of partially overlapping digital images of the document with an image capture device;

maintaining image sequence information identifying a sequential order in which the partially overlapping images were captured;

receiving direction information indicative of a direction of relative movement between the image capture device and the document during the capture of the plurality of partially overlapping digital images;

performing optical character recognition on ~~each one of~~ the plurality of captured partially overlapping digital images, ~~and thereby generating~~ to generate a corresponding plurality of electronic text files, ~~each one of the electronic text files including a portion of the plurality of characters in the document~~;

comparing the plurality of electronic text files with one another based on the sequence and direction information to identify ~~characters that are in common between the electronic text files~~ a character sequence appearing in common in the electronic text files corresponding to the partially overlapping images of adjacent portions of the document; and

combining the plurality of electronic text files into a combined text file based on the comparison and in a manner consistent with the sequence and direction information~~the~~

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received direction information, wherein the combined text file includes the plurality of characters in the document.

2.   (Canceled).

3.   (Canceled).

4.   (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of <u>partially overlapping</u> digital images are captured with a digital camera, the method further comprising:
        providing the direction information with a user input device of the digital camera.

5.   (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of <u>partially overlapping</u> digital images are captured with a digital camera, the method further comprising:
        automatically detecting the direction information.

6.   (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of <u>partially overlapping</u> digital images are captured automatically at a predefined time interval.

7.   (Amended) A digital camera comprising:
        a lens;

        an image sensor for generating a plurality of partially overlapping digital images based on optical images directed onto the image sensor by the lens;

        <u>a memory for storing image sequence information representing an order in which the plurality of digital images were captured;</u> and

        a controller coupled to the image sensor and configured to receive direction information indicative of a direction of movement of the digital camera during capture of the plurality of digital images, and <u>to</u> perform optical character recognition on the plurality

of ~~partially overlapping~~ digital images~~, and thereby~~to generate ~~an~~ electronic text ~~file~~ files ~~for each one of~~ corresponding to the plurality of partially overlapping digital images, ~~the electronic text file for each digital image including text appearing in the digital image,~~ the controller configured to compare the electronic text files based on the sequence and direction information to identify overlapping text ~~between~~ appearing in the electronic text files corresponding to adjacent partially overlapping digital images and to stitch the text in the plurality of text files together based on the identified overlapping text consistent with the image sequence information and the received direction information.

8.   (Canceled)

9.   (Amended) The digital camera of claim 7, ~~and~~ further comprising:
       a user input device for inputting the direction information.

10.   (Amended) The digital camera of claim 7, ~~and~~ further comprising:
       a motion detector for automatically detecting the direction information.

11.   (Amended) The digital camera of claim 7, wherein the controller is configured to cause the plurality of partially overlapping digital images to be captured automatically at a predefined time interval.

12.   (Amended) An electronic device including a digital camera, the electronic device comprising:
       a display screen for displaying images captured with the digital camera;
       an input device for inputting information into the electronic device;

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a memory for storing image sequence information representing an order in which the digital images are captured; and

a processor configured to perform optical character recognition on digital images captured with the digital camera and generate corresponding electronic text files, ~~the electronic text file for each digital image including text appearing in the digital image~~, the processor configured to compare the electronic text files based on the sequence and direction information to identify overlapping text appearing in the electronic text files corresponding to adjacent overlapping digital images, and to stitch ~~the~~ text from the electronic text files together based at least in part on the overlapping text, the order in which the digital images are captured, and direction information indicative of a direction of relative movement ~~of the~~ between the digital camera and the document while the digital images are being captured.

13. (Original) The electronic device of claim 12, wherein the electronic device is one of a cellular telephone, a personal digital assistant device, and a laptop computer.

14. (Cancelecd)

15. (Previously Presented) The electronic device of claim 12, wherein the device is configured to allow a user to enter the direction information via the input device.

16. (Previously Presented) The electronic device of claim 12, and further comprising:
a motion detector for automatically detecting the direction information.

17. (Original) The electronic device of claim 12, wherein the processor is configured to cause the digital images to be captured automatically at a predefined time interval.